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January 28, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft U.S. Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

The Microsoft antitrust settlement agreement should be finalized. I am opposed to this lawsuit. We operate in a free enterprise system where competition is the driving force behind a prosperous economy. Lawsuits of this nature punish a company for being competitive.

Despite my opposition to the lawsuit, I believe the terms of the settlement are reasonable. Microsoft has agreed to begin designing Windows with mechanisms to make it easier for consumers to add or remove features of Windows, and instead replace them with non-Microsoft software. They also agreed to not to enter into contracts that would obligate third parties to exclusively promote or distribute Windows products. With these types of concessions, consumers will have greater choices, and any so-called anticompetitive behavior will be curtailed.

I am hopeful the Department of Justice will continue in its efforts to settle this case. Thank you.

Sincerely,